GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:274
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2016
Inspection of Diagnostic Centres
Reddy Shri Ch. Malla

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has conducted inspection of all institutions or bodies which are using radioactive materials for diagnostic or research purpose during the last three years and the current year;

(b)if so, the details thereof and the number of such diagnostic and research centres which are registered with the AERB, State-wise;

(c)whether many diagnostic and research centres have been found flouting the AERB guidelines and norms rampantly and if so, the details of norms prescribed by AERB and follow-up action taken thereon; and

(d)the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the diagnostic and research centres abide by the norms laid down by AERB?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (Dr. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Inspection of the facilities using radioactive materials for diagnostic or research purposes is conducted by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) as per the frequency specified in AERB"s regulatory document "Regulatory Inspection and Enforcement in Radiation Facilities" (AERB/SM/G-3). The diagnostic facilities are inspected once in three years and the research facilities are inspected on a sample basis.

The State-wise number of diagnostic and research facilities having registered with AERB are as under:-

S.No. State Diagnostic Facilities Research Facilities using
using Radioactive Materials Radioactive Materials

1 Andhra Pradesh 11 1

2 Arunachal Pradesh 0 0

3 Assam 1 2

4 Bihar 2 0

5 Chhattisgarh 2 0

6 Goa 1 1

7 Gujarat 10 5

8 Haryana 6 3

9 Himachal Pradesh 1 2

10 Jammu & Kashmir 2 1

11 Jharkhand 2 0

12 Karnataka 20 21

13 Kerala 15 7

14 Madhya Pradesh 7 2

15 Maharashtra 35 14

16 Manipur 0 0

17 Meghalaya 0 2

18 Mizoram 0 0

19 Nagaland 0 0

20 Odisha (Orissa) 3 2

21 Punjab 11 2

22 Rajasthan 5 0

23 Sikkim 0 0

24 Telangana 13 16

25 Tamil Nadu 22 14

26 Tripura 5 0

27 Uttar Pradesh 13 5

28 Uttarakhand 2 1

29 West Bengal 15 8

Union Territories

S.No. Name of the U T Diagnostic Research Facilities using
Facilities using Radioactive Materials
Radioactive Materials

1 Delhi 27 10
2 Puducherry
(Pondicherry) 1 1

3 Andaman and Nicobar Islands 0 0

4 Chandigarh 2 2

5 Dadra and Nagar Haveli 0 0

6 Daman and Diu 0 0

(c)No Sir. The diagnostic and research centres using radioactive materials comply with AERB guidelines. AERB norms for the diagnostic facilities using radioactive materials (nuclear medicine facilities) are specified in the AERB Safety Code on Nuclear Medicine Facilities (AERB/RF-MED/SC-2-Rev-2) issued in 2010. For research facilities, the latest AERB norms are specified in the AERB Safety Guide on the Radioisotope Handling Facilities (AERB/RF-RS/SG-2) issued in 2015. The norms specified for these facilities include aspects such as layout, shielding requirements, availability of qualified personnel, responsibilities of the key stakeholders, etc.

(d)AERB has established a regulatory framework for diagnostic and research facilities using radioactive materials in order to ensure that these facilities comply with the safety norms by way of :-

a)Licensing [now carried out on-line in the e-governance portal-
e- Licensing of Radiation Applications (e-LORA)]

b)Review of periodic safety status reports submitted by the
facilities.

c)Periodic Regulatory Inspections and enforcement as required.

In order to enhance the awareness of the safety norms among the stakeholders in these facilities, AERB conducts regular awareness programmes on aspects related to radiation safety and regulatory requirements. AERB has also been issuing notices periodically in the leading dailies specifying the requirement of obtaining license from AERB.

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